

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1373

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0477

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (KAUNDA, KENNETH), US, ZA

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VISIT

REF: STATE 56417

1. AFTER DAILY CALLS TO MOFA OVER PAST WEEK, I SUCCEEDED ONLY TODAY, MARCH 19, IN REACHING FOREIGN MINISTER MWAANGA BY PHONE. HE CONFIRMED GRZ AGREEABLE TO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ON TUESDAY, MARCH 25 OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S APRIL VISIT.

2. MWAANGA ASKED FOR EXACT WORDING OF ANNOUNCEMENT. I PROVIDED HIM WITH STANDARD FORMAT READING AS FOLLOWS:

"HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. KENNETH DAVID KAUNDA PRESIDENT OF ZAMBIA, HAS ACCEPTED THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION TO VISIT WASHINGTON ON APRIL 19. FOLLOWING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT KAUNDA WILL PROCEED TO THE COMMONWEALTH CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING AT KINGSTON, JAMAICA." MWAANGA HAS NOT YET APPROVED WORDING WHICH HE UNDERSTANDS IS ALSO SUBJECT TO FINAL CLEARANCE BY WASHINGTON.

3. AS FOR PROGRAM FOR KAUNDA ON SUNDAY, APRIL 20, MWAANGA PREFERS PRESIDENT REMAIN IN WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND AFRICAN AMBASSADORS WHOM ZAMBIAN AMBASSADOR MWALI IS ACTIVELY LINING UP FOR BRIEFINGS. MWAANGA THUS THOUGHT PROFESSOR ROTBERG'S SUGGESTION
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KAUNDA GO TO HARVARD OR MIT TO MAKE PUBLIC ADDRESS WAS

OUT, AS WELL AS ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION BY ME TO PLAY GOLF
ON SUNDAY. MWAANGA SAID GOLF COULD HAVE UNFAVORABLE LOCAL
POLITICAL REACTION. SUGGEST AF/E (ZAMBIA DESK) TELL ROTBERG
AT MIT OF NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO HIS PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN
FEBRUARY 10 LETTER TO ME.

4. MWAANGA HOPES TO HAVE STATE HOUSE CLEARANCE BY MARCH 21
ON HIS PROPOSALS FOR COMPOSITION OF PRESIDENT'S PARTY FOR
WASHINGTON VISIT.
WILKOWSKI

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